essential qualification for this post?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Four out of existing Education Officers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan do not possess the B.Ed. Degree since the Recruitment Rules at the time of their selection did not stipulate B.Ed. as a mandatory qualification for recruitment of Education Officers in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

Import of Pulses

*137. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of pulses imported by India in 2000-2001; and

(b) what was the reason for the imports, despite huge domestic production of pulses and peas?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The import of pulses in 2000-2001 was 3.48 lakh tonnes.

(b) The import of pulses is under Open General License (OGL). The production of pulses during 2000-2001 was lower due to drought in most of the major pulse producing States. There was a gap between demand and domestic supply as a result of which imports took place during the year 2000-2001.

Stray wild animals

*138. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM:
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of leopards, tigers and lions, having strayed from forests into human habitations or fields, were killed by villagers in Assam, Maharashtra and other States during 1998-99, 1999-2000,

2000-2001 and 2001-2002.

(b) if so, the number of such killings of these beasts; and

(c) the steps taken to protect such stray and protected animals?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) and (b) Asiatic lion is found in the State of Gujarat only. Two lions, one each in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively were killed outside the forest area. The number of leopards and tigers that have been killed outside the forest area during last four years, as reported by the State Government, are at given in the enclosed Statement (*see below*)

(c) Steps taken to prevent straying of these animals into human habitations and protect them from being killed by the villagers are as follows:

1. Financial and technical assistance is provided to the States for improving wildlife habitants and the prey base of the carnivores. Measures for augmenting availability of water in lean season are also taken.

2. Wildlife officials are imparted training and provided with necessary infrastructure including tranquilizing guns for capturing and translocating problematic animals. The animals, which cannot be rehabilitated in the wild, are retained in captivity.

3. Awareness is generated amongst the local people to inform the wildlife officials regarding straying of leopards and tigers into human habitations.

4. To mitigate the anger amongst kith and kin of a person killed by wild animal, that often leads to retaliatory killing, the Central Government has issued guidelines for *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 1 lakh. The amount so paid is reimbursed under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Statement

State-wise number of Tiger/Leopard killed outside forest areas during last four years.

Sl. No.	State	Tiger		Leopard	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1999-2000–	1	1998-1999	3
		2000-2001–	1	1999-2000	3
				2000-2001	3
				2001-2002	2
2.	Assam	1999-2000–	2	1998-1999	3
		2000-2001–	2	1999-2000	1
		2001-2002–	1	2000-2001	5
				2001-2002	2
3.	Bihar	2000-2001–	1	1998-1999	1
		2001-2002–	1	1999-2000	1
				2000-2001	1
4.	Haryana			2000-2001	1
5.	Himachal Pradesh			1998-1999	1
				1999-2000	3
				2000-2001	4
				2001-2002	4
6.	Gujarat			1999-2000	1
				2001-2002	1
7.	Jharkhand			1999-2000	1
8.	Karnataka	2000-2001–	1	1998-1999	2
		2001-2002–	2	1999-2000	2
				2000-2001	2
				2001-2002	1
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2001-2002–	1	2000-2001	3
				2001-2002	1
10.	Maharashtra			1998-1999	1
				1999-2000	2
				2000-2001	3

Sl. No.	State	Tiger		Leopard	
11.	Meghalaya			2000-2001	1
12.	Orissa	1998-1999–	1	2000-2001	1
13.	Rajasthan			2000-2001	1
14.	Tamilnadu			1998-1999	1
15.	Uttar Pradesh	2001-2002–	1	1999-2000	2
				2000-2001	3
				2001-2002	1
16.	West Bengal	1998-1999–	2	1999-2000	1
		2001-2002–	3	2000-2001	5
				2001-2002	1

The information from the states of Chattisgarh, J&K, Goa, Punjab, Kerala, Arunachal Pradesh & Delhi are not available.

Blast furnace of IISCO

*139. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 897, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th July, 2001 and state:

(a) the specific technical measures taken so far, for the hearth strengthening of blast furnace No.3 at IISCO;

(b) the status of relining of blast furnace No.4;

(c) whether Government are going to assure necessary measures in blast furnace Nos. 3 and 4, so that operations at IISCO are not affected till the implementation of the proposed revival schemes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a), (c) and (d) All efforts are being made to run the Blast furnaces Nos. 3 and 4 by adopting technical measures for hearth strengthening so that operations at Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) are not affected.

The specific technical measures taken by IISCO so far for the hearth strengthening of blast furnace No. 3 at Burnpur include restriction in production, keeping 6 nos. of tuyers out of 18 blanked,